

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following listing of the claims, which replaces all prior versions thereof.

Listing of Claims:

1-65 (cancelled)

66. (new) A data access domain method executed by a programmable computer, the method comprising:

(a) receiving, with a programmable computer, read data requests, write data requests, and requests to perform operations from a plurality of incompatible applications, said incompatible applications comprising:

- (i) an insurance application,
- (ii) a bank application,
- (ii) a vehicle dealer application, and
- (iii) a motor vehicle agency application;

(b) transmitting received requests to a plurality of incompatible databases, said incompatible databases comprising:

- (i) an insurance database,
- (ii) a bank database,
- (iii) a vehicle dealer database, and
- (iv) a motor vehicle agency database;

(c) receiving data responses from the plurality of incompatible databases, the data responses corresponding to the transmitted requests from the plurality of incompatible applications; and

(d) transmitting the data responses to the plurality of incompatible applications, each data responses being transmitted in a format compatible with the application to which it is transmitted.

67. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 further comprising managing communications connections and request queues.

68. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 further comprising checking authorization of an application to make a request.

69. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 further comprising generating an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

70. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 further comprising checking authorization of an application to receive a response.

71. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 further comprising employing an application interface specific to each of the plurality of incompatible applications.

72. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 wherein the step of receiving data responses comprises employing software components for allowing databases to access other databases.

73. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 wherein data responses are received from interfaces specific to the incompatible databases, the interfaces extracting data from appropriate files and fields in the databases and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to provides responses to requests.

74. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 further comprising monitoring all received requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that constitutes an application trigger and for generating an appropriate application trigger message to activate an appropriate application in response to an application trigger.

75. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66, wherein the requests and data responses are transmitted electronically using at least one of : the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communication, local area networks, wide-area networks, dial-up, a combination of telecommunication links, satellite communication, and exchange of removable media.

76. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 wherein said incompatible applications further comprise one or more of: after market store applications, salvage company

applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, consumer applications, internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

77. (new) The data access domain method of claim 66 wherein said incompatible databases further comprise one or more of: after market store databases, salvage company databases, supplier company databases, car company databases, retailer databases, consumer databases, internet-based databases, auction house databases, automotive broker databases, collision repair databases, and information broker company databases.

78. (new) A programmable computing apparatus comprising:

(a) means for receiving read data requests, write data requests, and requests to perform operations from a plurality of incompatible applications, said incompatible applications comprising:

- (i) an insurance application,
- (ii) a bank application,
- (ii) a vehicle dealer application, and
- (iii) a motor vehicle agency application;

(b) means for transmitting received requests to a plurality of incompatible databases, said incompatible databases comprising:

- (i) an insurance database,
- (ii) a bank database,

- (iii) a vehicle dealer database, and
- (iv) a motor vehicle agency database;
- (c) means for receiving data responses from the plurality of incompatible databases, the data responses corresponding to the transmitted requests from the plurality of incompatible applications; and
- (d) means for transmitting the data responses to the plurality of incompatible applications, each data responses being transmitted in a format compatible with the application to which it is transmitted.

79. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising means for managing communications connections and request queues.

80. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising means for checking authorization of an application to make a request.

81. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising means for generating an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

82. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising means for checking authorization of an application to receive a response.

83. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising an application interface specific to each of the plurality of incompatible applications.

84. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 wherein the means for receiving data responses comprises software components for allowing databases to access other databases.

85. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising interfaces specific to the incompatible databases, the interfaces extracting data from appropriate files and fields in the databases and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to provides responses to requests.

86. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 further comprising means for monitoring all received requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that constitutes an application trigger and for generating an appropriate application trigger message to activate an appropriate application in response to an application trigger.

87. (new) The apparatus claim 78, wherein the requests and data responses are transmitted electronically using at least one of : the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communication, local area networks, wide-area networks, dial-up, a combination of telecommunication links, satellite communication, and exchange of removable media.

88. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 wherein said incompatible applications further comprise one or more of: after market store applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, consumer applications,

internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

89. (new) The apparatus of claim 78 wherein said incompatible databases further comprise one or more of: after market store databases, salvage company databases, supplier company databases, car company databases, retailer databases, consumer databases, internet-based databases, auction house databases, automotive broker databases, collision repair databases, and information broker company databases.

90. (new) A machine readable memory medium comprising:

(a) means for receiving, with a programmable computer, read data requests, write data requests, and requests to perform operations from a plurality of incompatible applications, said incompatible applications comprising:

- (i) an insurance application,
- (ii) a bank application,
- (ii) a vehicle dealer application, and
- (iii) a motor vehicle agency application;

(b) transmitting received requests to a plurality of incompatible databases, said incompatible databases comprising:

- (i) an insurance database,
- (ii) a bank database,
- (iii) a vehicle dealer database, and
- (iv) a motor vehicle agency database;

(c) receiving data responses from the plurality of incompatible databases, the data responses corresponding to the transmitted requests from the plurality of incompatible applications; and

(d) transmitting the data responses to the plurality of incompatible applications, each data responses being transmitted in a format compatible with the application to which it is transmitted.

91. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising means for managing communications connections and request queues.

92. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising means for checking authorization of an application to make a request.

93. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising means for generating an audit list of data requests for tracking transactions.

94. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising means for checking authorization of an application to receive a response.

95. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising an application interface specific to each of the plurality of incompatible applications.

96. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising software components for allowing databases to access other databases.

97. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising interfaces specific to the incompatible databases, the interfaces extracting data from appropriate files and fields in the databases and mapping and performing stored procedures upon the extracted data to provides responses to requests.

98. (new) The medium of claim 90 further comprising means for monitoring all received requests and all data responses to identify any request or response that constitutes an application trigger and for generating an appropriate application trigger message to activate an appropriate application in response to an application trigger.

99. (new) The medium of claim 90, wherein the requests and data responses are transmitted electronically using at least one of : the Internet, leased telephone lines, wireless communication, local area networks, wide-area networks, dial-up, a combination of telecommunication links, satellite communication, and exchange of removable media.

100. (new) The medium of claim 90 wherein said incompatible applications further comprise one or more of: after market store applications, salvage company applications, supplier company applications, car company applications, retailer applications, consumer applications,

internet-based applications, auction house applications, automotive broker applications, collision repair applications, and information broker company applications.

101. (new) The medium of claim 90 wherein said incompatible databases further comprise one or more of: after market store databases, salvage company databases, supplier company databases, car company databases, retailer databases, consumer databases, internet-based databases, auction house databases, automotive broker databases, collision repair databases, and information broker company databases.